Freight Equalisation Policy

1451. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mineral producing States are suffering due to freight equalisation policy of Government;

(b) whether Government propose to bring non-mining products under freight equalising policy; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Freight Equalisation Policy applied only to iron and steel and therefore it would not be correct to say that the mineral producing States in general are suffering due to this policy. Only the iron-ore producing States in Eastern India have not been able to take advantage of the steel plants being located in those States.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Indicative Planning vis-a-vis Centralised Planning

1452. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items appearing in the Business and Political Observer of 31st October, 1991 wherein the need for switching over from Centralised to an Indicative Planning and greater interface between Planning Commission and the private sector and the role of the Planning Commission in the changed environment has been stressed; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various ideas and concepts regarding the changed role of planning in a fast changing economic scenerio, the lessons to be drawn from the development experience of other countries, and a possible shift to indicative planning and greater degree of reliance on private initative, and non-governmental voluntary associations in supplementing government's developmental efforts are under consideration. Final decisions will be taken by the National Development Council.

Discontinuance of unviable projects

1453. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has asked Central Ministries "to discontinue all unviable projects under construction and in the pipeline"; and

(b) if so, the details of these projects, Ministry-wise, and expenditure incurred on them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

1454. *[Transferred to the 10th December, 1991]*

Growth rate registered during the 7th Plan

1455. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state the growth rate registered during the 7th Plan and that during the last and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PRO-